

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 235243

LIMDIS - FOR THE EMB FROM AF

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PINT, SG

SUBJECT: SENEGALESE INTEREST IN US ARMY ENGINEERING  
EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) SEPT 13 DAVIS LETTER TO SMITH, (B) DAKAR 5060,  
(C) DAKAR 4108

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED POSSIBLE WAYS  
TO MEET SENEGALESE REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT. WE  
HAVE FOUND THAT PROVIDING NEW EQUIPMENT ON A GRANT MAP BASIS  
PROBABLY NOT POSSIBLE UNTIL FY 1978. IF EQUIPMENT NEEDED  
SOONER, WE CAN PROBABLY ARRANGE FOR CREDIT SALE. IT IS  
POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE A SMALL AMOUNT OF RECONDITIONED  
EQUIPMENT IN A SALES PACKAGE, BUT THERE IS LITTLE  
OF GOOD QUALITY AVAILABLE. WE CONCLUDE BEST COURSE IS  
TO PRESS FOR CREDIT SALES NOW, AND IF THIS FAILS, FOR  
GRANT PROGRAM IN FY 1978, AND NEED YOUR VIEWS SOONEST.  
END SUMMARY.

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2. MOST DESIRABLE WAY TO MEET SENEGALESE REQUEST IS

THROUGH FY 1977 GRANT MAP REQUEST. HOWEVER, BUREAUCRATIC AND LEGISLATIVE HURDLES ARE FORMIDABLE AND CHANCES OF SUCCESS SLIGHT. PRESENT LAW REQUIRES SUBMISSION OF NEW MAP COUNTRY PROGRAMS TO CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL. CONGRES-

SIONAL CALENDAR SOLIDLY BOOKED AND APPROVAL OF SENEGAL PROGRAM, EVEN IF ENDORSED IN EXECUTIVE BRANCH, VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE BY ADJOURNMENT DATE OF OCTOBER 2.

3. APPROVAL WOULD HAVE TO BE SOUGHT FROM NEW CONGRESS, WHICH IS NOT LIKELY TO TAKE ACTION BEFORE MARCH-APRIL 1977 AT EARLIEST. SHOULD CONGRESS FAIL TO SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM AT THAT TIME, WE MAY FIND THAT FY 1977 FMS PROGRAM HAS BEEN COMPLETELY SUBSCRIBED. HENCE WE MIGHT LOSE THE OPPORTUNITY TO USE EITHER GRANT OR CREDITS IN FY 77.

4. INTERAGENCY SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL BE MEETING IN NEXT TEN DAYS TO CONSIDER FY 1978 REQUIREMENTS. WE NEED TO MAKE DETERMINATION AT THIS TIME RE GOS REQUEST. FAILURE TO RESOLVE QUESTION NOW COULD ALSO FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY OF SATISFYING SENEGALESE REQUEST IN FY 1978.

5. DOD CONTINUING TO EXPLORE EXCESS PROPERTY POSSIBILITY, AND WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED LISTING OF SOME AVAILABLE EQUIPMENT, CONDITION AND PRICE. INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT EXCESS DEFENSE PROPERTY AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY WOULD NOT, REPEAT NOT, GO FAR TO MEET GOS REQUEST.

6. AFTER DETAILED CONSIDERATION, BUREAU BELIEVES APPROACH MOST LIKELY TO YIELD RESULTS IS TO REQUEST REPROGRAMMED FY 1977 FMS CREDITS BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR GOS IN OCTOBER 1976. IF FMS CREDITS ARE NOT AVAILABLE, BUREAU WILL PUSH FOR 8 MILLION DOLLARS GRANT MILITARY AID PROGRAM FOR FY 1978.

7. WE WOULD PROPOSE, IN WHICHEVER PROGRAM WE ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN, TO MIX IN ANY AVAILABLE EXCESS DEFENSE PROPERTY WHICH APPEARS CLEARLY OF GOOD QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICE, BUT REPEAT THAT WE DO NOT FORESEE THIS SURPLUS

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EQUIPMENT AS CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN SMALL PORTION OF ANY PROGRAM.

8. REQUEST YOUR VIEWS ON ABOVE APPROACHES URGENTLY, PREFERABLY C.O.B. SEPT. 23, SO THAT BUREAU'S POSITION MAY BE CONSOLIDATED FOR SAPRC PROCESS COMMENCING SEPT.

24. HABIB

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